

AFGHANISTAN - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

2.5 million

Number of Afghan Refugees Displaced to Neighboring Countries

Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)/International Organization for Migration (IOM) – January 2014

2.2 million

Number of Severely Food-Insecure Afghans

U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – November 2013

701,909

Total Number of Afghans Internally Displaced by Conflict

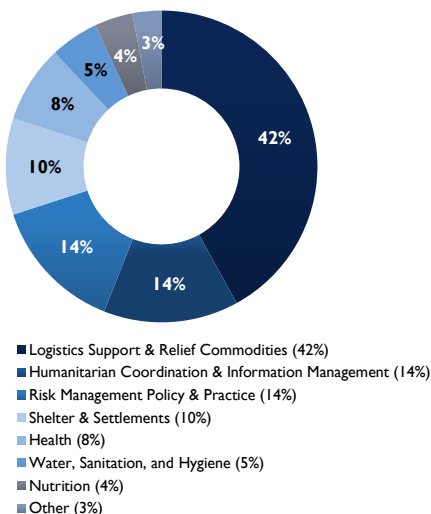
UNHCR – July 2014

4,853

Total Number of Conflict-Related Civilian Deaths and Injuries between January 1 and June 30

OCHA – August 2014

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014



USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2014



HIGHLIGHTS

- Humanitarian needs persist among populations affected by floods earlier in the year.
- Ongoing insecurity results in civilian casualties and displacement.
- The U.S. Government (USG) responds to the complex emergency in Afghanistan with more than \$199 million in FY 2014 humanitarian assistance.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO AFGHANISTAN IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA	\$25,684,721
USAID/FFP	\$65,969,100
State/PRM ³	\$107,451,647
\$199,105,468	
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Insecurity continues to affect civilians and relief workers throughout Afghanistan. The U.N. reports that conflict resulted in more than 1,500 civilian deaths between January 1 and June 30—a 17 percent increase in civilian deaths from the same period in 2013. In August, eight relief workers died in 31 reported violent incidents against aid personnel and facilities, according to OCHA.
- The 2013 National Nutrition Survey—released in August 2014—suggests that 46 percent of children under the age of five are stunted due to malnutrition, exceeding the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) emergency threshold of 40 percent.
- In FY 2014, the USG provided more than \$199 million in humanitarian assistance for people affected by the complex emergency in Afghanistan. This includes nearly \$66 million from USAID/FFP and more than \$25 million from USAID/OFDA for emergency food assistance and relief commodities; water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions; activities designed to strengthen humanitarian coordination, information management, and risk preparedness; and shelter support. State/PRM also provided more than \$107 million to assist vulnerable populations, including internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, in Afghanistan and in neighboring countries.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

- Between January and July, natural disaster events—including heavy rainfall and flooding, harsh winter conditions, and other extreme weather, such as hail and strong winds—resulted in the deaths of nearly 875 people and damaged or destroyed more than 26,600 houses, affecting more than 210,500 people across Afghanistan, according to the U.N.
 - Heavy rainfall beginning in April resulted in widespread flooding and multiple landslides, primarily in May and June. The U.N. has expressed concern that the approaching winter may exacerbate the humanitarian needs of flood-affected populations, particularly among the approximately 2,500 households still requiring shelter assistance as of August 31.
 - With nearly \$1.3 million in FY 2014 support, USAID/OFDA supported the Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) to provide shelter and WASH assistance, including latrines and hygiene awareness training, to flood-affected families. In addition, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1.2 million in FY 2014 to ZOA to support transitional shelters for 400 flood-affected households, or 2,400 people, in Sar-e Pul Province. ZOA's transitional shelter program will assist vulnerable families who lost their houses in floods secure housing before the start of the winter season.
 - USAID/OFDA partner IOM—through its Humanitarian Assistance Program (HAP)—works closely with the Afghanistan National Disaster Management Authority (ANDMA) and other relief actors to monitor, assess, and respond to natural disasters in Afghanistan. In the first half of 2014, the HAP assisted approximately 85,500 disaster-affected people, including people in flood-affected communities, with shelter kits, blankets, and other emergency relief commodities. USAID/OFDA support for IOM programs in Afghanistan totaled \$6.5 million in FY 2014.
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INSECURITY AND DISPLACEMENT

- Ongoing clashes between Afghan National Security Forces and armed actors resulted in approximately 4,900 civilian deaths or injuries in the first six months of 2014—a 25 percent increase in civilian casualties compared to the same period in 2013, the U.N. reports. As of August 31, more than 1,000 children had required emergency health care for conflict-related injuries in 2014.
 - Conflict in Helmand Province displaced approximately 70 families to Kabul's Informal Settlements (KIS) in June, according to the U.N. Following a July needs assessment, UNHCR, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP), and other humanitarian actors provided assistance—including food, relief commodities, WASH support, and shelter—to the newly displaced families.
 - Since mid-June, military operations in Pakistan's North Waziristan Agency (NWA) against the Tehrik-i-Taliban have resulted in displacement in surrounding areas of Afghanistan and Pakistan, with many displaced households sheltering in Afghanistan's Khost and Paktika provinces, according to IOM. Of the approximately 22,500 displaced families in Khost and Paktika, U.N. assessments indicate that 16,000 families require humanitarian assistance. U.N. agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) continue to respond to the priority needs of IDPs and refugees, providing food, shelter, and relief commodities to vulnerable households, according to OCHA.
 - IOM reports that approximately 500 displaced Afghan families—or nearly 3,000 people—were residing in Khost, Paktika, and Kabul provinces as a result of NWA operations as of September 11. Through the USAID/OFDA-supported HAP, IOM provided food, hygiene kits, and shelter, to approximately 720 Afghans displaced from NWA as of September 11.
 - The U.N. reports 31 incidents against humanitarian personnel and assets in August; the incidents resulted in the deaths of eight aid workers, with an additional three people injured and 18 abducted. According to OCHA, the number of incidents involving humanitarian personnel and assets increased significantly in August as compared to July.
 - The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) reported that five of its Afghan staff—kidnapped in Herat Province by a local armed group on August 15—were released unharmed on August 20.
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FOOD SECURITY AND EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

- The USAID-funded Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) projects that food insecurity is likely to remain at Minimal—IPC 1—levels through December for most of Afghanistan's population due to a normal or above-

average wheat harvest, normal harvests of other crops, and adequate income from cash crops and labor in 2014.⁴ However, flood-affected households and other newly displaced populations could enter Crisis—IPC 3—levels of food insecurity between October and December without humanitarian assistance, FEWS NET reports.

- Displaced households in Khost and Paktika are expected to remain at Stressed—IPC 2—levels of food insecurity through December, provided they continue to receive humanitarian assistance; otherwise, they may face Crisis levels, according to FEWS NET.
- In FY 2014, USAID/FFP provided 41,440 metric tons (MT) of in-kind food assistance—valued at \$59.5 million—to WFP’s Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in Afghanistan. The PRRO aims to provide emergency food and nutrition assistance to nearly 2.4 million food insecure and vulnerable people, including IDPs, returnees, and populations affected by natural disasters.
- In FY 2014, USAID/FFP supported WFP to reach more than 855,000 people in need of food assistance. In August alone, WFP provided targeted supplementary feeding to improve the nutritional status of 10,900 malnourished children and 158,100 pregnant and lactating women and their family members.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) Ministry of Public Health and the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) released the results of the 2013 National Nutrition Survey in early August 2014. The survey concluded that approximately 10 percent of Afghan children under the age of five are acutely malnourished, and four percent are severely malnourished and at risk of death if not treated. The survey reported that 2.2 million children—46 percent of Afghanistan’s children under age five—are stunted as a result of malnutrition. The high level of stunting exceeds WHO emergency thresholds of 40 percent of the population of children under age five.
- OCHA has advised humanitarian partners to focus on increasing access to services to treat acute malnutrition by expanding current treatment facilities. As of mid-August, 26 percent of Afghan health facilities offered treatment for malnutrition, with fewer than two percent of acutely malnourished children registered in nutrition programs.
- On September 3, WHO, UNICEF, and the GIROA Ministry of Public Health reported the successful completion of a nationwide polio immunization campaign. The campaign, which took place between August 17 and 19, targeted more than 8.9 million children under age five in all districts of the country’s 34 provinces, including southern areas where vaccinations had not occurred since March. Health workers reported eight polio cases in Afghanistan in 2014.
- USAID/OFDA provided \$2 million in FY 2014, through WHO, for critical health care services in Afghanistan. Activities include establishing temporary health facilities, providing medicine and medical supplies, and supporting provinces at high risk of health emergencies to develop and implement mass casualty management plans.
- With \$1 million in USAID/OFDA support, UNICEF is working to improve coordination and provide training to nutrition partners to strengthen their capacity to conduct assessments and surveys, in turn improving nutrition-specific data at the provincial and district levels. USAID/OFDA also recently provided \$1 million to UNICEF to increase access to WASH services in all 34 Afghan provinces. The WASH support will specifically target children, as poor hygiene, lack of sanitation, and inadequate access to safe drinking water directly contribute to infant mortality and morbidity, as well as under-nutrition.
- In FY 2014, USAID/FFP provided 830 MT of ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF)—valued at nearly \$6.5 million—to UNICEF to treat approximately 60,000 children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) across the country. The program, which targets children under five years of age, supports the implementation and scale-up of the community management of acute malnutrition approach to expand access to SAM treatment. UNICEF provides technical and capacity building support, both directly to the GIROA Ministry of Public Health and via NGOs, to treat children with SAM.

⁴ The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a standardized tool that aims to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5.

HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- In FY 2014, USAID/OFDA provided five partners with more than \$3.4 million to support and improve humanitarian coordination and information management in Afghanistan. USAID/OFDA-funded activities benefit ANDMA and other GIRoA ministries, as well as more than 200 humanitarian organizations in Afghanistan, and have helped standardize information collection and dissemination to improve the humanitarian response throughout the country.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The U.N. conducted a mid-year review of the 2014 Common Humanitarian Action Plan (CHAP) and reported that humanitarian activities reached at least 2 million people—including IDPs, refugees, and other vulnerable populations—between January and June. This includes assistance for more than 120,000 flood-affected people. As of August 31, international donors had funded nearly 57 percent of the total CHAP appeal, according to the U.N.

CONTEXT

- Since 2002, conflict and frequent natural disasters have displaced populations and generated significant humanitarian needs throughout Afghanistan. More than 701,909 people remain internally displaced by conflict. Recurring natural disasters, including drought, floods, landslides, earthquakes, and avalanches, affect approximately 250,000 Afghans each year, according to the U.N.
- In addition, Afghanistan's food security situation depends on numerous factors, including seasonal agriculture patterns where food availability from production relies heavily on access to irrigation, access to agricultural labor, and other wage labor; food item availability in the market and consumption per capita as a part of utilization, dietary diversity, and raising livestock; and food stability which is affected by natural and man-made disasters. According to the National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment, an estimated 7.6 million people—30.1 percent of the Afghan population—are very severely to moderately food insecure.
- USAID/OFDA supports a three-pronged approach to improving humanitarian response efforts in Afghanistan: supporting rapid response capacity for acute needs following natural disasters and conflict; improving humanitarian indicators; and enhancing humanitarian coordination, data collection, and analysis.
- USAID/FFP food assistance and disaster readiness programs are designed to respond to the food security and nutritional needs of IDPs and returnees, as well as people affected by economic stress; support the recovery of communities affected by shocks; treat both moderately malnourished children under age five and pregnant and lactating women; and contribute to learning among primary and lower secondary school pupils and adults, particularly women.
- On October 10, 2013, U.S. Deputy Ambassador James B. Cunningham renewed the disaster declaration for the complex emergency in Afghanistan for FY 2014.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN PROVIDED IN FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
ACTED	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Badakhshan Province	\$1,278,268
Aga Khan Foundation (AKF)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Natural and Technological Risks, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Badakhshan, Baghlan Provinces	\$1,008,496
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Kunar and Nuristan Provinces	\$1,750,000
Information Management and Mine Action Programs (iMMAP)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,752,158
IOM	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Countrywide	\$6,500,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Badghis, Helmand, Herat, Khost, Laghman, Logar, Pakiya, Nangarhar Provinces	\$1,600,000
OCHA	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	Badakhshan, Balkh, Bamyan, Faryab, Jowzjan, Kabul, Kandahar, Kunduz, Sar-e Pul, Takhar, Uruzgan Provinces	\$1,648,938
UNICEF	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management, Nutrition, WASH	Countrywide	\$2,340,000
U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$300,000
U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
WHO	Health	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
ZOA	Shelter and Settlements	Sar-e Pul Province	\$1,241,696
	Administrative Support		\$265,165
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$25,684,721

USAID/FFP³			
UNICEF	830 MT of Title II RUTF	Countrywide	\$6,466,200
WFP	41,440 MT of Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Countrywide	\$59,502,900
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$65,969,100

STATE/PRM			
ICRC	Humanitarian Assistance, Protection	Countrywide	\$20,400,000
NGO Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Afghanistan, Pakistan	\$18,551,647
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance, Protection	Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan	\$59,600,000
UNHCR	Refugee Affected and Hosting Area Program	Pakistan	\$8,900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$107,451,647
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN IN FY 2014			\$199,105,468

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of September 30, 2014.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at
<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>